APA Committee on Career Opportunities
2008 Report

2007-2008 Annual Report

Submitted by Andrew Light, Former Chair

The main actions taken by the Committee for the 2007-2008 year were as follows:

1. Placement Advice. Sponsor of two sessions on the APA placement brochure combined with an "advice to job seekers" session.

   Session 1: 2007 Eastern Division Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

   Session 2: 2008 Pacific Division Meeting, Pasadena, CA.

   Supplemental workshops for hiring were held on invitation at UC Riverside, University of Colorado, and University of Washington.

   Upcoming Sessions at the 2008 Eastern and 2009 Central.

2. Ombudsman Activity. Andrew Light served as placement ombudsman. No complaints were filed.

3. Presentation materials for placement help. A power point presentation was developed and is now available at no cost outlining the APA placement guide and advice for placement in philosophy.

4. APA/NSF Ethics and Technology Project: APA Sessions. The following sessions were held in conjunction with the NSF grant to promote work on ethics and science and technology which is being administered by this committee. The grant has been extended for one more year.

Session 2: 2008 Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
Topic: Opportunities for federal funding for philosophers working on science and technology.
Panelists: Fred Kronz and Laurel Smith-Doerr (Science, Technology, and Society Program, National Science Foundation). Primary focus will be support for dissertation research. There have been a disproportionately low number of proposals from philosophers to this program in the last two years. The intention of this session is to increase the number of proposals from philosophy graduate students.

5. APA/NSF Ethics and Technology Project: Workshop. A workshop was held on the ethics of emerging technologies at UNC Charlotte, April 11-13. Primary topics were represented through four discussion panels:

- Ethics and Nanotechnology
- Ethics and Information Technology
- Ethics and Environmental Technology
- Ethic and Artificial Agents ("Robo Ethics")

There were approximately 50 people in attendance, all supported by the NSF grant. Half of attendees were graduate students with a focus on building a support network for graduate students working in these areas. A third of the panelists were non philosophers, primarily engineers and scientists interested in forming collaborative research on ethics and technology. Plenary talks were provided by Jim Moore (Philosophy, Dartmouth), Paul Thompson (Philosophy, Michigan State), Deidre Mulligan (Law, UC Berkeley), and Ronald Arkin (Computing, Georgia Tech). A full schedule is below.

ETHICS IN EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 11-13, 2008
121 Fretwell Building
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE
Funded by the National Science Foundation

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008

5:15 Introduction
5:30 Plenary Talk – "Ethics in Technology Overview"
James Moor, Department of Philosophy, Dartmouth College

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008

9:00-10:00 Plenary Talk – "Ethics in Nanotechnology"
Paul Thompson, W.K. Kellogg Chair in Agricultural, Food and Community Ethics, Department of Philosophy, Michigan State University
10:00-10:15 Coffee Break
10:15- 11:45 Roundtable on "Ethics in Nanotechnology"
Moderator: Davis Baird, Department of Philosophy & Dean, Honors College, University of
South Carolina

Panelists: Tom Vogt (Biochemistry, USC); Nibo Arjistan (Engineering, UNCC); and Paul Thompson.

11:45-1:00 Lunch
1:00-2:00 Plenary Talk on "Ethics and Information Technology Law" Deidre Mulligan, Clinical Professor of Law & Director of the Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic University of California at Berkeley
2:00-2:15 Break
2:15-3:45 Roundtable on "IT Ethics"
Moderator: Celine Latulipe, Department of Software and Information Systems, UNC Charlotte
Panelists: Gordon Hull (Philosophy, Iowa State & UNC Charlotte); Bill Ribarsky (Computer Science & Visualization Center, UNC Charlotte); Rosemarie Tong (Philosophy and Ethics Center, UNCC); and Deidre Mulligan.
3:45-4:00 Break
4:00-5:30 Roundtable on "Environment, Technology, and Ethics"
Panelists: Andrew Light (Philosophy, University of Washington); Allen Thompson (Philosophy, Clemson University); Kevin Elliott (Philosophy, University of South Carolina); and Bill Ryerson (Biotechnology, UNCC).

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

9:00-10:00 Plenary Talk on "Governing Lethal Behavior: Embedding Ethics in an Autonomous Robot Architecture"
Ronald Arkin, Regents’ Professor & Director of the Mobile Robot Laboratory, College of Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology
10:00-10:15 Break
10:15-11:45 Roundtable on "Robo-Ethics"
Moderator: Anita Raja
Department of Software and Information Systems UNC Charlotte
Panelists: Shannon French (Department of Leadership, Ethics, Law, and Character, U.S. Naval Academy); and Ronald Arkin.
11:45-12:00 Break
12:00-1:00 Concluding Roundtable on Future Collaborations
Moderator: Michael Kelly